

HQ
106
A27
no. 44

UNIVERSITY
OF MICHIGAN

JUN 15 1958

LIBRARY

Aging

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

No. 44—June 1958

Learning from Omaha's Teachers

The Omaha Education Association (OEA) is a citywide professional organization to which most of the 1400 Omaha teachers belong. OEA's major efforts are concerned with improving the schools and advancing the welfare of teachers. It has been singularly successful in both areas. Faced with a need, the OEA marshalls its own forces from among its teacher-members, taps all outside sources for help, and gets the job done.

For example, when skyrocketing rents after the postwar removal of rent controls in 1949 began to threaten teachers' living standards, OEA built a cooperative apartment house for teachers, using FHA guarantees. This project, the first cooperative apartment house to be built with an FHA insured loan, was completed in 1952 and has been decidedly successful.

More recently, with housing becoming a problem for the growing number of Omaha's retired teachers, OEA decided to fill that need as well.

Through a subsidiary nonprofit organization, OEA Senior Citizens, Inc., they are now building a retirement residence which will be completed and ready for occupancy by fall of this year.

First came the land, at 22nd and Chicago Streets, close to the center of town and to all of the usual facilities, with an unexpected dividend—urban redevelopment plans call for a park and a new community center across the street. Then came the serious planning. OEA consulted with various groups in the field of aging and collected ideas. It also sent its Executive Secretary to Washington to work for a revision in FHA rulings so that they might secure the kind of loan they needed.

As a result, the project which will cost almost \$1.4 million is being handled through an FHA guaranteed construction loan under Section 207 of the 1956 Housing Act, and an FNMA mortgage

commitment. OEA, itself, has invested over \$300,000 in this building project. Its money-raising methods are also worthy of note.

Funds for the retired teachers apartment house were raised by means of gifts, bequests (someone has willed the association a half interest in an oil well which has not produced as yet, but may one day), a bond issue floated among the teachers, and a vast variety of activities, memorial gifts, special programs. One source of revenue is the OEA Rummage and Bazaar Store. The store has netted \$50,000 during the past five years. The OEA store is operated by retired teachers, who are paid for their work. It is stocked with donated goods by the local PTA.

Employment in the store has earned 80 teachers minimum social security (Old-Age and Survivors Insurance) benefits and a great many more retired teachers are now earning social security coverage in the store. These teachers retired before social security coverage for teachers in Omaha was introduced; now they can catch up to some extent. In addition, the retired teachers enjoy the work, the companionship, and the social usefulness of this activity.

About 100 retired teachers have already taken options on lifetime leases in the soon-to-be opened retired teachers apartment house. A lifetime lease costs \$1,500 and monthly operating expenses, including all utilities, are estimated at about \$70. Retired teachers, whose incomes are too low to permit paying for occupancy, will be subsidized up to 100%, if necessary, by the OEA. Income limitations, they feel, should not close the doors to any retired teacher.

OEA's retired teachers apartment house is a 12-story building containing 132 "efficiency" units, each with a 15 by 15 foot living room, a well-equipped kitchenette (cabinets, sink, garbage dis-

posal, refrigerator, and electric range) concealed behind a long folding door, a 5 by 7 foot dressing room, bathroom with tub and shower, closets, year-round air conditioning, nonskid and carpeted floors throughout the building and a garage under the building. Units may be occupied as singles or doubles. There will also be hobby, crafts, and game rooms, a separate laundry room with coin-operated washers and dryers, and a community dining hall for those who wish to use it instead of their own kitchens for any or all meals or for entertaining friends.

The retired teachers will continue their coverage under Blue Cross and will have unlimited access to the infirmary being constructed as part of the second floor of the building. If the need develops, the whole second floor can be easily converted to use as an infirmary with practical nursing care provided.

Even today, in process of construction, the apartment house is obviously destined to be a most attractive addition to Omaha's skyline. This and the cooperative apartment house for working teachers built earlier will be Omaha's two tallest apartment houses; others go as high as 11 stories, these are 12.

For additional information, write to Mr. Frank Heinisch, Executive Secretary of the Omaha Education Association, 927 City National Bank Building, Omaha 2, Nebr.

Library Services for the Aged

What are public libraries doing to meet the needs of older people? To answer this and related questions, the American Library Association, in cooperation with the Adult Education Section and the Library Services Branch of D/HEW's Office of Education, conducted a post card survey of all public libraries in places with populations of 2,500 and over.

The post card listed these nine library services: Provides books, provides films and other audio-visual aids, publicizes materials, provides meeting place, works with other agencies, sponsors library groups for older persons, provides library film showings, acts as community clearinghouse, provides shut-in service. Librarians were asked to check separately the services provided for older people, for persons working with older people, and for the general public.

Tabulation of the 1,391 replies shows that provision of books, publicizing of available library materials, provision of shut-in service, and working with other community agencies were the four most frequently offered services. Neither size nor geographic location of the community made much difference in the services offered.

Typical library service to shut-ins is provided by the staff of the library, or by community vol-

unteers under library supervision, directly to the older person in his home or in a hospital or other institution.

Typical library cooperation with other agencies involved: Provision of a meeting place for senior citizen and similar groups within the library building; guidance for program planning; provision of exhibits, displays, books, films, etc., for conferences and meetings; and membership by library staff in community-wide committees and councils concerned with the aging.

Comments from librarians indicated general awareness of the needs and problems of older persons. In some cases, however, staff shortages, overcrowded buildings, and limited finances make specialized services impractical at the present time. In other cases, the librarian felt that older people could be served effectively through existing services for all adults.

The post card survey has served as the pilot study for a more detailed survey and analysis of the nature and extent of public library services to and for the aged, now being planned by the American Library Association. This second phase will be based on a more comprehensive questionnaire to a selected group of libraries which have active programs for the aging.

Aging plans to describe instances of existing library services for the aged in the next few issues, together with the results of the new ALA study when it is completed. Meanwhile, for additional information on the surveys, write to Miss Eleanor Phinney, Executive Secretary, Adult Services Division, American Library Association, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago 11, Ill.

A Note on the Older Worker in the Recession

Through March 1958, the Census' monthly labor force reports have consistently shown lower unemployment rates for workers 45 years of age and over than for younger workers during the current recession. It has been assumed that this is a reflection of the concentration of unemployment in the durable goods manufacturing industries. In these industries, not only is the proportion of employed older workers at a lower level than would be true in such activities as trade, finance, and services, but there is also more prevalence of seniority provisions which tend to make the younger workers the first to be laid off. It would follow, then, that if unemployment should grow and become more intense in these other areas of employment, the older workers would be affected to a larger degree.

Special reports collected by the Social Security Administration's Bureau of Old-Age and Survivors Insurance from its Regional Representatives and the managers of selected district offices

throughout the country confirm this general picture but add significant sidelights on developments during the first quarter of 1958.

District Office Managers in the industrialized eastern and midwestern States report increases in the number of older workers (65 and over) applying for old-age insurance benefits. In areas that have been depressed for some time, such as parts of Maine and Pennsylvania, there has been little recent effect on the claims volume.

The Pacific coast has not shown much increase in claims thus far due to the delayed advent of the recession rather than other circumstances. Little effect has been noted in the South thus far.

In some areas, companies with pension plans with compulsory retirement ages over 65 or with flexible retirement age provisions are either pressuring workers over 65 to retire or are trying to establish a lower compulsory retirement age. In some cases, the employer or the union has persuaded the older worker to retire to avoid the necessity of firing a younger worker.

Some employed older workers who have never applied for benefits have now done so even though they are still employed. This action is taken to determine the benefit amount so that the worker will know what to expect and will know when reduced earnings reach the point where benefits can also be drawn. Such claims also act to determine and establish a monthly benefit amount before periods of low or no earnings become part of the wage record.

Some beneficiaries whose benefits were suspended due to earnings above the amount provided in the "retirement test" have now had their benefits reinstated due to unemployment or reduced earnings.

In some States, the State laws on unemployment compensation provide an offset in the case of concurrent receipt of unemployment insurance and social security benefits. In these States, older workers file first for unemployment compensation (usually a larger benefit). An increase in old-age insurance applications is expected when these older workers exhaust their unemployment benefits. In other States, unemployed older workers are receiving both benefits simultaneously.

Though the survey was directed primarily at industrial areas, scattered reports from agricultural areas indicate that claims loads in farm areas have shown very little increase. A small number of older farm operators have given up farming and claimed social security payments because of the effects of the recession. In some cases, this has been an indirect process—the older farm operator "retiring" in favor of a son who has lost his job or has been placed on a short workweek and who takes over operation of the farm to maintain his shrunken earnings.

The Metropolitan Chicago Story

Part II of a 2-Part Series

Part I of this series, prepared by Mrs. Laue of the Welfare Council of Metropolitan Chicago, appeared in the last issue. It summarized the accomplishments from 1951 through 1956, based on a community plan, in the areas of housing and sheltered care, education and recreation, health, and social services.—Ed.

Friendly Visitors

"This Is My Friend", a documentary film produced by the Cook County Department of Welfare, depicts the services volunteers are giving to a portion of Chicago's aged. The star is a member of a neighborhood senior center.

The Volunteer Bureau of the Welfare Council, which recruits and trains friendly visitors for social agencies, now services 16 agencies as compared with 4 six years ago. It has not only trained more than 300 visitors to lonely and handicapped older people, but also through continuous publicity on radio, television, and in the newspapers, has helped create a favorable climate for more services to meet such needs.

Professional Training

Potential professional opportunities in services for the aging have stimulated educational institutions. The University of Chicago, through its Sociology Department, was an initiator of the community project that produced the original Chicago Plan. Its Committee on Human Development initiated a 2-year study of retirement policies and the employment of older workers (*Effective Use of the Older Worker* by Elizabeth L. Breckinridge, Wilcox & Follett, 1953). The Industrial Relations Center offers business firms an employee preretirement preparation service on *Making the Most of Maturity*. The University's School of Social Service Administration offers summer courses on casework with the aging and institutes for administrators.

University College offers administrators of homes for the aged and professionals seeking such employment a 15-week course on administration of homes for older people.

Loyola University and the University of Illinois Medical and Nursing Schools, as part of their training of physicians and nurses, provide orientation to working with older people. The Board of Education's training courses for practical nurses are open to women up to age 55.

A number of homes for the aged have provided opportunities for students from professional schools to do their practice or field work in the institution. The Drexel Home has led the way in providing residencies, field work, institutes, sem-

(continued on page 8, column 1)

Aging

Issued Monthly by the
SPECIAL STAFF ON AGING

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

Marion B. Folsom, Secretary

No. 44—June 1958

AGING is a medium for sharing information about programs and activities among agencies and organizations in the field, their staffs and board members and other interested individuals. Communications and items suitable for publication should be sent to The Editors of *Aging*, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Washington 25, D. C.

Subscription \$1.00 a year, 25 cents additional for foreign mailing; 10 cents for single copy. Send to Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. The printing of this bulletin has been approved by the Director of the Bureau of the Budget, August 22, 1957.

Conferences, Courses and Seminars

New York University's School of Education will offer a *Workshop on Gerontology: Methods and Materials*, August 11-22, covering current trends in preparing adults for maturity, demonstration of new materials for use by discussion groups, and motion pictures and kinescopes for mass audiences or for institutional preretirement programs. Dr. S.E. Hand, Director of Adult Education for Florida, will lead.

Prof. John Carr Duff, Chairman of the University's Adult Education Department will give two courses during the 1958-59 academic year, "Gerontology: Adult Education for Maturity and Self-Realization" and "Gerontology: Adult Education for Older Adults".

For further information, write to Prof. Duff, N.Y.U., Washington Square, New York 3, N.Y.

With the Federal Council on Aging and a number of individual Federal Departments joining various Michigan State agencies as cosponsors, planning for the University of Michigan's *Elev-enth Annual Conference on Aging* on June 23-25 at Ann Arbor is nearing completion as we go to press. This year's theme, *Social Gerontology and Its Applications*, permits drawing heavily on the

materials prepared for the handbooks for the Interuniversity Training Project in Social Gerontology (see *Aging* 31, p. 1) and on the impressive list of experts working on the project. Announcements and registration forms: Division of Gerontology, Rackham Bldg., Ann Arbor, Mich.

News of State Commissions

With the appointment of five "citizen" members, the membership of the new *Texas Interim Legislation Committee on Aging* is now complete. The other ten members are divided equally between the State's Senate and Assembly. To help with their orientation and planning, the Texas Gerontological Society has purchased a 1-year subscription to *Aging* for each Committee member. Senator Crawford Martin, 1219 Park Drive, Hillsboro, Texas, is Committee Chairman.

The *Mississippi Council on the Aging* (see *Aging* 42, p. 4) is unofficial no longer. Following a series of preliminary meetings, the Executive Committee adopted an organizational form, a list of officers, a plan for a paid executive director, and a 3-way function—information, coordination, and advisory. Then the State legislature passed Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 144 (expires June 30, 1960) which recognizes, commends, and requests the continuation of the Council.

The Council, which will continue to consist of representatives of public and private agencies, is currently occupied with the raising of funds (with some possibility of State assistance) and with the planning of a second Statewide conference on aging for September 15-17. Mr. Travis McCharen of the State Vocational Rehabilitation Division at Jackson is Chairman of the Council.

On April 21st, the Connecticut Legislature passed a bill at its special session launching a \$4 million building program for housing of the aged. Under this act, the recently established Connecticut Commission on Services for Elderly Persons is authorized to contract with local housing authorities in the State for the development, construction, and operation of housing projects for elderly persons of low income.

The Commission may contract for financial assistance, for loans, or for guaranteeing notes of these local authorities. Loans are made at the same rate of interest as that at which the State currently borrows money (now 2½%) and run for 50 years.

"Elderly persons of low income" are persons aged 65 and over who, under standards to be established by the Commission, have insufficient income to maintain a decent and worthwhile place to live. Rents would be at the lowest possible level consistent with operating costs. While these housing

projects are to be exempt from local property taxes, the local authorities are to pay to the municipality a sum not to exceed 10% of the rental income.

The Commission is drawing up the standards and procedures under which it will administer the act, under the chairmanship of Joseph C. Buckley, 721 Stratfield Road, Bridgeport 4, Conn.

The Way the Wind Blows

The 1958 Baltimore Council of Social Agencies' Organization Award was presented at a special luncheon to the Jewish Family and Children's Bureau for its pioneering development of a program of *Foster Home Care for Aged People*. For details on this program, write to the Bureau's Executive Director Milton Goldman, 319 W. Monument St., Baltimore 1, Md.

—★—

D/HEW's Public Health Service has awarded the second grant in its new program to encourage establishment of university-wide research centers which will cooperate with community health and related agencies in studying aspects of aging (see *Aging 35*, p. 5). The National Heart Institute, the National Institute of Mental Health, and the National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases have made a joint first-year grant of \$417,939 to the *Albert Einstein College of Medicine* of Yeshiva University in New York City for new research on the medical and biological aspects of aging under the supervision of the College's Committee on Gerontology. The program includes direct research, research training through postdoctoral fellowships, and teaching through a 90-bed ward service to be established in cooperation with the city at the neighboring Van Etten Hospital.

—★—

The newly organized *Pullman (Washington) Gerontology Council*, having completed the development of its organizational structure, elected its officers, and spread its membership representation to include all aspects of the community, has successfully launched its first project. It is a five-day-a-week recreational and activities center for senior citizens in the Moose Hall. J.D. Lewis was elected President.

—★—

The *Institute for the Crippled and Disabled* has opened registration for a special 9-month course for training orthopedic and prosthetic technicians beginning in September. There is a worldwide shortage of such technicians qualified to manufacture and fit artificial limbs and braces. For information on fees, enrollment, etc., write to the Institute at 23rd Street and First Avenue, New York 10, N.Y.

The Wier Subcommittee (see *Aging 43*, p. 5) continued hearings during April on certain bills of interest in aging. On April 22nd, Mr. Newell Brown, Assistant Secretary of Labor and Chairman of the Federal Council on Aging, appeared on behalf of both the Department of Labor and the Federal Council; and Mr. Bookbinder represented the AFL-CIO. On April 23rd, Dr. Robert Hamlin, Assistant to the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, testified. On April 24th, Mr. Maurice Splain, Jr., Past Grand Worthy President, Fraternal Order of Eagles, represented that organization; and Miss Germaine Kretteck, Director of the Washington office, represented the American Library Association. Mr. M. Carter McFarland appeared for the Housing and Home Finance Agency on April 30. The American Medical Association submitted a written statement. For printed copies of the hearings, write to the Subcommittee on Safety and Compensation, Committee on Education and Labor, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington 25, D.C.

—★—

The *League of New Hampshire Arts and Crafts* will open its *25th Anniversary Craftsmen's Fair* on August 5th at the Belknap Mountain Recreation Area. The League, many of whose member organizations consist solely or largely of senior craftsmen, is encouraging special exhibits, production of special articles for display, and continuous demonstrations of craftsmen at work. For further information, write to the League at Concord, N.H.

—★—

Climaxing 8 years of study by the *Pasadena, Calif., Committee for Senior Citizens*, the Pasadena Planning Commission has endorsed the construction of the Senior Citizens Center in Jefferson Park from funds voted in the 1956 municipal bond election. The Planning Commission, in approving this site to serve Pasadena's 20,000 residents aged 65 and over, endorsed the Committee's finding that: It is centrally located; there is room for future expansion; there is plenty of parking space on surrounding streets; adequate recreational facilities and staff are already available; and public transportation is convenient, with no point in the city further away than a half hour bus ride from the Park.

—★—

Ohio's *Toledo Sunday Blade Pictorial* for April 20 features an illustrated story on Toledo's 16 clubs for senior citizens. Entitled, "Ol' Rockin' Chair's Not For Them", Staff Writer Jack Cairns' story covers two full and four half pages to show the diversity of activities and facilities available and in full use by the busy and pleased senior citizens.

The national headquarters of the American Red Cross is developing a program to enable its own career staff employees to plan sooner and more adequately for their retirement life. While this retirement preparation, stressing information and counsel, is being developed by the Red Cross Personnel Service for initial application to employees of the national office, the whole plan will eventually be shared with the areas and chapters. For further information write to Mrs. Dorothy S. Albertson, American Red Cross, Washington 18, D. C.



Cleveland's *Vocational Guidance and Rehabilitation Service* has a new illustrated leaflet explaining the range of their facilities and services, including a sheltered workshop and special counseling for individuals over 50. Write to Mrs. Harold Banister, Executive Director, at 1001 Huron Road, Cleveland 15, Ohio.

Books, Pamphlets and Reports

The Public Health Service has begun publication of the data being collected in the continuing program of National Health Surveys. Under the general title, *Health Statistics from the U.S. National Health Survey*, the first two reports are now available: *Preliminary Report on Volume of Physician Visits, United States, July-September 1957* (PHS Publication No. 584-B1) and *Preliminary Report on Volume of Dental Care, United States, July-September 1957* (PHS Publication No. 584-B2). Each report presents a summary analysis with charts and the detailed tables, and includes age-group breakdowns on appropriate items. The first deals with physician visits and interval since last visit; the second covers dental visits, interval since last visit, and edentulous persons. For sale at 25¢ each by the U.S. Government Printing Office, with some sample copies available free from the Public Health Service, both at Washington 25, D.C.



The entire April issue of *The Journal of Educational Sociology* is devoted to the theme, "Planning for Retirement", under the guest editorship of Prof. Alonzo Myers of the School of Education, New York University. Articles deal with a study of N.Y.U. faculty members who have retired in the past 10 years, the retirement policies of universities, a placement program for retired faculty, a panel discussion of health and medical aspects of retirement, financial planning, and the essential elements of a good retirement plan. The Journal is for sale by the Payne Educational Sociology Foundation, N.Y.U., Washington Square, New York 3, N.Y. at \$3 a year (9 issues) or 35¢ a single copy.

Older Persons in the Church Program is a 48-page discussion of the characteristics and needs of elderly people, with suggestions for the development of church programs to assist them to continue as active, wanted, useful church and community members. Published by the Department of Adult Programs, Board of Christian Education, Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., it is for sale at 50¢ by the Presbyterian Distribution Service, 156 Fifth Ave., New York 10, N.Y.



The fact book on Michigan's older people prepared by the Legislative Advisory Council on Problems of the Aging (see *Aging* 40, p. 2) has just come off the press. *Michigan's Older People* is a 90-page analysis, with text, charts, maps, and tables, of the characteristics, circumstances, and needs of Michigan's 600,000 people 65 years of age and over. Primary data from the 1950 Census are updated through use of materials from local surveys and other recent sources. State and community program planners in Michigan should find the booklet a useful aid in their work; those in other States should find it a fine example, containing generally useful information. The booklet was prepared by the Council's Executive Secretary, Anthony Lenzer, 3032 Rackham Bldg., Ann Arbor, Mich., who will honor requests for free single copies as long as the supply lasts.



The March 1958 issue of *Social Order*, the monthly of the National Jesuit Social Science Center, carries a carefully prepared, analytical article on the "Status of the Aged" by Robert Hart, S.J., and Paul Harbrecht, S.J. For sale at 40¢ (\$4 a year) by the Institute of Social Order, 3908 Westminster Place, St. Louis 8, Mo.



Availability for Work: Chronic Disease and Limitations of Activity by Philip S. Lawrence (Public Health Monograph No. 51) is a 46-page report of a pilot survey in Hagerstown, Md., designed to test methods for shedding much needed light on the actual availability for work and employability of persons 45 years of age and over who are not in the labor force. The goals were: To measure the individual's personal opinion of his health and fitness for work; to devise a scale for measuring degree of availability for entry into the labor force; and to determine how health, attitudes, family composition, etc., are related to such availability. Consideration was also given to the extent to which disabilities interfere with non-work activities. The findings, though reported, cannot be applied to other communities; the methodology for making similar studies, however, is stressed. For sale at 35¢ by the Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D.C.

The National Committee on the Aging of the National Social Welfare Assembly, which held its spring meeting in Washington in March, has issued an explanatory brochure, *The National Committee on the Aging—What It Is—What It Does*. For a free copy, write to Public Information Director David Richards at the Committee, 345 E. 46th St., New York 17, N.Y.



The National Dairy Council's *Nutrition News* for April is almost completely devoted to food and the health of the aged. Older persons, those preparing for their older years, and those working with the aging will especially want to study the two main articles, "Food for the Older Patient" and "Food Habits of the Aging and Aged". Nancy Carter, the Council's National Program Consultant, is having additional copies of this issue printed to answer requests for single copies from readers of *Aging*. Write to Miss Carter at the Council, 111 N. Canal St., Chicago 6, Ill.



The Division on the Aging of the Philadelphia Health and Welfare Council has usefully filled a gap in the area of practical help to operators of institutions for the aged by compiling and publishing *Health Guide for Institutions Serving Older People*. Chapters deal with general standards, medical care programs, nursing care and related services, food needs and service, health units, and accident prevention and safety, supplemented by 6 appendices (one a bibliography) and an index. For sale at \$1 by the Council, 1617 Pennsylvania Blvd., Philadelphia 3, Pa.



Counselors who must advise older persons, approaching retirement or just retired, concerning employment opportunities in other geographic areas will find the new *Area Manpower Guidebook*, compiled by the Labor Department's Bureau of Employment Security in cooperation with the State Employment Security Agencies, a very useful tool. The book covers each of the 174 major labor market areas, presenting data and analysis of labor market features and long-term trends. For sale at \$1.75 by the U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C.



A number of reprints of speeches and articles on the mental health of the aged as individuals, as members of society, and in relation to other groups, by the recognized authority, Dr. Maurice E. Linden, Director of the Division of Mental Health of the Philadelphia Department of Public Health, are now available to readers of *Aging*. Address your request to Dr. Linden at Room 604, City Hall Annex, Philadelphia 7, Pa.

The National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health, of D/HEW's Public Health Service has issued an 18-page reprint of *The Cancer Quacks* by Dr. Charles S. Cameron, from the book, *The Truth About Cancer*, published by Prentice Hall, Inc. For free single copies of the reprint booklet, write to the Public Health Service, Washington 25, D.C. Ask for PHS Publication No. 559.



FHA has begun publication of a new summary *Report of FHA Section 207 Housing for the Elderly Projects and Proposals*. The first report, as of March 31st, shows tabular information on the status of 21 active projects providing 2,563 units with mortgages totaling more than \$21 million, and of 26 firm proposals for additional projects providing more than 2,800 units. For a copy, write to Housing for the Elderly, Federal Housing Administration, Washington 25, D. C.



Geriatrics for May is devoted to a Symposium on Geriatrics in which internists from the faculty of the Hahnemann Medical College discuss the special problems involved in the treatment of the geriatric patient as they are encountered in the various medical specialties. *Geriatrics* is available at \$8 a year, 75¢ a copy, at 84 S. 10th St., Minneapolis 3, Minn.



The *Social Security Bulletin* for January 1957 carried a long article on "Private Employee Benefit Plans Today" by Joseph Zisman (see *Aging* 32, p. 2). The March 1958 issue brings the picture up to date in an equally fine article, "Growth in Employee Benefit Plans", by Alfred Skolnik and Joseph Zisman. The two articles show in detail how these private industrial plans have developed to either supplement existing public social insurance programs or to take their place where no public programs exist. *The Social Security Bulletin* is available from the U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D.C., at \$2.75 a year or 25¢ a single copy. A limited number of reprints of both articles are available free from the Division of Program Research, Social Security Administration, Washington 25, D.C.



The March 1958 *Statistical Bulletin* of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., 1 Madison Ave., New York 10, N.Y., carries a useful summary and extension of data from a number of census reports on population 65 years of age and over. A table shows, *by State*: The number 65 and over for 1940, 1956, and estimates for 1970; their percentage increase 1940 to 1956 and 1956 to 1970; and the percent of total population they represent in 1956 and 1970.

UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
DIVISION OF PUBLIC DOCUMENTS
Washington 25, D. C.
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

If you do not desire to continue receiving this publication, please CHECK HERE ☐; tear off this label and return it to the address at the left. Your name will then be promptly removed from the appropriate mailing list.

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$300
(GPO)

AGING-NOV-D-18220
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
DOCUMENTS SECTION
GENERAL LIBRARY
BA ANN ARBOR MICH

The annual report of the Housing Authority of the City of San Antonio, Texas, *Housing Horizons, 1957*, features a special section on its program of public housing for the elderly. A limited number of copies of the thorough and carefully prepared, 112-page report on *Housing the Elderly* which forms the basis for the San Antonio program are still on sale at \$2 by the Housing Authority, 400 Labor St., San Antonio 3, Texas.

(Chicago—continued from page 3)

inars, practical training, etc. These have included opportunities for psychiatrists, medical students, hospital administrators, practical nurses, occupational therapists, and physiatrists.

New Agencies

Two new agencies to make use of the skills and energies of the senior citizens themselves have been initiated. One stresses leisure-time activities, the other work activities. Both are based on the conviction that the trend to shelve older persons must be reversed and that they must be motivated to get back into the stream of life.

The Senior Center of Metropolitan Chicago is a one-year-old, incorporated, nonprofit agency. It operates a 5-day-a-week, leisure-time center, providing, under social work direction, programs of community service, creative endeavors, and social pastimes. Of the 500 senior citizens enrolled, 300 participate actively.

In addition to operating the center, the staff assists neighborhood groups who sponsor one-day-a-week local centers, and trains crafts instructors and volunteer aides both for its own center and for homes and other centers.

Senior Achievement, Inc. (see *Aging* 39, p. 1) is a partially subsidized nonprofit organization offering useful, part-time paid work to retired men and women and facilities to produce work on a subcontract basis for local firms. It also supplies part-time professional or clerical help to local

firms needing temporary extra help. In 1957, approximately 700 retired workers found an opportunity to work in this agency; 300 on a regular basis and 400 for varying periods.

City Commission Takes Hold

The Mayor's Commission on Senior Citizens was created in 1956 to stimulate municipal agencies to develop and improve services for older people. Nearly 100 civic leaders began by studying how the older people of Chicago were faring.

In April 1957, they came back with a series of resolutions that made newspaper headlines. They recommended that: (1) Persons over 65 be permitted reduced fares on public transportation during the nonrush hours so they could afford to get "to places for recreation, health care, and education"; (2) the Chicago Park District embark on a \$50,000-a-year program to improve recreational and other opportunities for senior citizens in park field houses; (3) the Board of Education expand the adult education program; and (4) the Chicago Housing Authority provide staff to deal with senior citizens' tenant problems, at a cost of \$90,000 a year.

While working to have these basic recommendations adopted, the Mayor's Commission has been active in other areas. It sent 4,500 letters to employers asking for the discontinuance of discrimination against older workers. It issued a 26-page *Guide to Community Services for Senior Citizens*, listing over 200 educational, health, and welfare services. The *Guide* has been invaluable to information desks, social workers, public libraries, Social Security, and innumerable other agencies and offices where older persons may go to seek help.

This round-up, because of space limitations, has had to omit much material. Further information and details are available at the Welfare Council of Metropolitan Chicago, 123 W. Madison St., Chicago 2, Ill.

OID

57,
op-
lar

was
to
ole.
ow

of
ney
er-
ion
to
and
ark
ea-
ens
ion
the
eal
of

la-
een
m-
mi-
ge
ns,
are
or-
es,
ies
eek

as
on
cil
St.,